

CD NO.

25X1

COUNTRY

## East Germany

DATE DISTR. 25 May 1954

SUBJECT

## KVP Construction Projects

NO. OF PAGES 3

PLACE  
ACQUIRED

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NO. OF ENCLS.  
(LISTED BELOW)DATE OF  
INFO.

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SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

25X1

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1. In mid-December 1953, the 2d Department of the Billeting Administration (VQN/2) in the Ministry of the Interior (MdI) commenced planning and projecting the 1954 construction program. The first projects drawn up by the VQN/2 in December 1953 provisionally envisaged the spending of a total of almost 1 billion eastmarks for 1954 construction projects. By an urgent order of the chief of the Construction and Billeting Department in the MdI the original construction plans were revised and curtailed in early January 1954. Another revision was made in late January 1954 involving a curtailment of the original construction program and budget by about one third. The projects cancelled were to be executed at a later date, presumably in the fall of 1954. On 29 January 1954, lists of projects were handed over to Senior Lieutenant Hartmann (fnu), who transmitted the same to Major General Mayer (fnu), chief of the Construction and Billeting Department in the MdI, on 30 January. The new budget provided for a total of 600,000,000 to 700,000,000 eastmarks. The target dates for the completion of designs, placing of orders, and completion of the buildings ranged from March to late June 1954. Construction orders were already placed with Bauunionen Sued, Ost and Kueste. All projects of this program were scheduled to be taken over by the KVP ready for use in late June 1954. Source doubted that the target dates fixed would be kept. 1
2. Whereas the 1953 construction program of the VQN/2 until late December 1953 gave priority to the construction and completion of military billets, the 1954 construction program mainly provided for the construction of settlements for officers, administrative personnel and their dependents. The settlements were scheduled to include so-called culture buildings, schools, kindergartens, athletic fields and bakeries. The program also provided for the construction or reconstruction of VP hospitals. Military projects other than the construction and completion of military billets mainly included 2 C-I bases (ordnance depots for heavy tanks and artillery equipment), installations and storage sheds for BA equipment, billets for BA/O3 units, large service stations with installations for various types of fuel, ammunition bunkers, road improvement, and construction of fences and walls around barracks installations. Priority was given to the construction projects in the north-eastern area, at Prora on Ruegen Island, the "Elbe" project and the 2 C-I bases. 2

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3. Projects in the northeastern area included road construction and the construction of fences and walls around barracks installations, a service station, ammunition bunkers in Spechtberg, Karpin, Droegeheide, Eggesin, Altwarp, Prenzlau and Pasewalk. A settlement will moreover probably be built at Spechtberg.
4. Construction projects in Prora included a large barracks block and a large settlement the orders for which had been placed with Bauunion Kueste in late 1953. The former rest house on the beach near Prora, which was 200 to 300 meters long and was completed two years ago, and has been occupied since then. 3
5. The "Elbe" project was a large-scale construction project of about the same size as the project at Prora. It included several military billets, large service stations, garages of all types, ammunition bunkers, large assembly shops and a settlement with culture houses and schools. Senior Lieutenant Hartmann was the VQN/2 staff officer in charge of this project. 2
6. The C-I bases were large installations for heavy tanks, artillery equipment and BA equipment, and BA/O3 billets. Each of the two bases was estimated to cost 600,000 to 800,000 eastmarks; one of them was scheduled to be established in the northeastern area. 2
7. Other KVP projects [redacted] included Kirchmoeser, where the barracks installation was scheduled to be completed, and type 12 and 16 garages and a settlement including culture house were scheduled to be completed by late July 1954; Premnitz, where the construction of military billets was probably projected; Hohenstuecken, where an order for the construction of a large service station for various types of fuel has been placed; Jaegerbrueck, where a service station and type 12 and 16 garages were to be constructed; Hohenflucht, where a service station and type 12 and 16 garages, presumably also a settlement, were projected; Wildpark, where settlements were scheduled to be constructed side by side with the "Seehaus" special project; Frankenberg, where military billets already under construction were scheduled to be completed by late June; Cranienburg, where the billets and the garages of Projects I and II were to be reconditioned and the local castle was to be improved; Potsdam, where an unspecified installation was projected; Baerenstein, where barracks installations and billets under construction were scheduled to be completed prior to the summer of 1954; Bad Saarow, where the VP hospital was under reconstruction; Koenigsbrueck, where the reconstruction and enlargement of the VP hospital was scheduled to be completed by the spring of 1954; Dresden, where the large "Weidner" VP hospital was scheduled to be converted into a tuberculosis sanitarium by the spring of 1954; and Pasewalk, where the reconstruction of a minor VP hospital was scheduled to be completed prior to the spring of 1954. The VP rest houses at Sellin and Prora, Goehren and Oberhof in Thuringia were completed and opened. The Oberwiesenthal rest house was provided for members of the MdI only and had two sections, one for officers and the other for enlisted personnel. 4
- 25X1 1. [redacted] Comment. The information on the procedure of planning, projecting and executing KVP projects generally agrees with pertinent data reported from the preceding year. In late 1952 or early 1953, the original construction budget was also subjected to considerable cuts, while further funds were subsequently appropriated. A Bauunion Ost is reported for the first time.

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- 25X1 2.  Comment. C-I bases probably are large tank repair shops. Such a base was opened at Neubrandenburg in the summer of 1953. This project became known under the designation "Elbe"; the installation will apparently be enlarged in 1954. The location of the second C-I base is unknown, but it is believed that the base will be constructed in the area of Armeegruppe Sued. The term BA equipment presumably refers to artillery and infantry weapons. The meaning of the abbreviation BA/O3 is not clear; the abbreviation may be used for storage sheds for artillery and infantry weapons.
- 25X1 3.  Comment. Since the Prora division has been deactivated the barracks installation at Prora has been occupied below capacity. At present it quarters elements of the Schwerin division. The construction projects in Prora indicate that it may be intended to raise the number of troops stationed at the post.
- 25X14.  Comment. Jaegerbrueck is the training camp and artillery range of Armeegruppe Sued in the area north of Pasewalk. The designation "Seehaus" refers to construction work for the KVP at Strausberg airfield and north of the town near Wilkendorf. The MdI/KVP is scheduled to move to Strausberg in the fall of 1954. In this connection it is believed that the projects at Potsdam-Wildpark are also scheduled to quarter KVP units hitherto stationed in East Berlin. The Koenigsbrueck VP hospital, which was mentioned previously, is confirmed by the present information.

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